



ARTS2908

Premodern Japan: Status, Sex and Power

Term One // 2021

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Dr Sally McLaren	sally.mclaren@unsw.edu.au	via Email		

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course offers a thematic overview of Japanese history from prehistory to the Meiji Imperial Restoration of 1868, its central theme being the history of women, gender and sexualities. As the course is essentially a cultural and social history, you will not only discuss the ideas and social practices of ruling classes (civil aristocrats and then bushi/warriors), but will also examine popular Buddhism, folk religion, peasant rebellion, commoner resistance, and aspects of popular culture.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of premodern Japan.
2. Analyse premodern Japanese History through the lens of gender and feminist scholarship.
3. Construct arguments about premodern Japanese History in written and/ or verbal form.
4. Identify key debates and concepts in premodern Japanese history.
5. Locate and analyse primary and/or secondary material relevant to premodern Japanese history.

Teaching Strategies

This course introduces students to key debates about the early modern history of Japan, with an emphasis on women's and gender history. It uses lectures to teach content, and tutorials to allow students to discuss their reading. Tutorial assessments are designed both to encourage steady engagement (participation) and to add depth to tutorial discussion (2x responses, plus discussion questions). The research project helps students to undertake structured, independent research.

Assessment

Updated details for the assessments will be provided at the start of the course.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
In-class Test 1	20%	Not Applicable	1, 2, 4
In-class Test 2	20%	Not Applicable	1, 2, 4
In-class Test 3	20%	Not Applicable	1, 2, 4
Critical Bibliography	40%	26/04/2021 11:59 PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: In-class Test 1

Start date: Not Applicable

Details:

Covers content from weeks 2-4. The test will consist of 20 multiple-choice questions based on the readings, lecture and tutorial content relevant to the weeks being assessed. Your mark will be released approximately one week after on Moodle, and further feedback will be given in a subsequent tutorial via a general discussion.

Assessment 2: In-class Test 2

Start date: Not Applicable

Details:

Covers content from weeks 5-7. The test will consist of 20 multiple-choice questions based on the readings, lecture and tutorial content relevant to the weeks being assessed. Your mark will be released approximately one week after on Moodle, and further feedback will be given in a subsequent tutorial via a general discussion.

Assessment 3: In-class Test 3

Start date: Not Applicable

Details:

Covers content from weeks 2-4. The test will consist of 20 multiple-choice questions based on the readings, lecture and tutorial content relevant to the weeks being assessed. Your mark will be released approximately one week after on Moodle, and further feedback will be given in a subsequent tutorial via

a general discussion.

This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

Assessment 4: Critical Bibliography

Start date: Not Applicable

Details:

You will develop your own research question to answer, on a topic related to one of the weeks in the course. Your critical bibliography should be structured using the template that will be provided for you. The total length is 1400 words - you should use 6 sources and write 200 words for each source, along with a 100-word introduction (where you will provide a brief background to the topic and state your research question) and a 100-word conclusion (where you will reiterate the answer to your question and provide a brief summary of your research). All sources used must be from either peer-reviewed journals or chapters from edited book collections. Feedback will be given to you with individual comments via Grademark on Turnitin, in addition to a qualitative grading rubric.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 15 February - 19 February	Lecture	Course Introduction: Origins of 'Japan' and the 'Japanese'
Week 2: 22 February - 26 February	Lecture	Mythical Origins: 'Age of the Gods' (& Goddesses)
Week 3: 1 March - 5 March	Lecture	State Formation: His- and Her-stories
Week 4: 8 March - 12 March	Lecture	Heian Court Life & Women's Literature
Week 5: 15 March - 19 March	Lecture	Warriors and Buddhists
Week 6: 22 March - 26 March	Reading	Reading Week
Week 7: 29 March - 2 April	Lecture	Revolution and Unification
Week 8: 5 April - 9 April	Lecture	Urban Popular Culture: The 'Pleasure' Quarters
Week 9: 12 April - 16 April	Lecture	To The North: Hokkaidō and the Ainu
Week 10: 19 April - 23 April	Lecture	Towards Meiji

Resources

Prescribed Resources

All required and supplementary course readings will be available on Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Deal, W. E., & Ruppert, B. (2015). *A cultural history of Japanese Buddhism*. John Wiley & Sons.

De Bary, W. T., Gluck, C., & Tiedemann, A. (Eds.). (2002). *Sources of Japanese tradition: From Earliest Times to 1600*. Columbia University Press.

De Bary, W. T., Gluck, C., & Tiedemann, A. (Eds.). (2005). *Sources of Japanese tradition: 1600 to 2000*. Columbia University Press.

Denoon, D., Hudson, M., McCormack, G., & Morris-Suzuki, T. (Eds.). (2001). *Multicultural Japan: palaeolithic to postmodern*. Cambridge University Press.

Friday, K. F. (Ed.). (2017). *Routledge handbook of premodern Japanese history*. Taylor & Francis.

Hall, J.W. (1988-1989). *The Cambridge history of Japan* (Vol. 1-6). Cambridge University Press.

Hane, M. (2018). *Premodern Japan: A historical survey*. Routledge.

Hardacre, H. (2017). *Shinto: A history*. Oxford University Press.

Henshall, K. G. (2012). *History of Japan: From stone age to superpower* (3rd ed.). Palgrave Macmillan Limited.

Tonomura, H., Walthall, A., & Wakita, H. (Eds.). (1999). *Women and class in Japanese history*. University of Michigan Center for Japanese Studies.

Tsutsui, W. M. (Ed.). (2009). *A companion to Japanese history*. John Wiley & Sons.

Walthall, A. (2007). *Japan: A cultural, social, and political history*. Houghton Mifflin Company.

Wert, M. (2019). *Samurai: A concise history*. Oxford University Press.

Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. It is encouraged students complete their surveys by accessing the personalised web link via the Moodle course site.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise>

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/>

Image Credit

Portrait-Icon of Murasaki Shikibu (*Murasaki Shikibu zu*), 17th century, by Tosa Mitsuoki (1617-1691).

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tosa_Mitsuoki_001.jpg

CRICOS

CRICOS Provider Code: 00098G

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.